

OLH

# NOW

more than ever

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 3

NOVEMBER 2019

## OLH HAS MANY REASONS TO GIVE THANKS

THANKSGIVING falls very late in the autumn this year, but is never too late for the OLH community to gather for the traditional Thanksgiving Prayer Service and Feast.

The tables were beautifully decorated as the three hundred-fifty students, teachers, priests, bus drivers and community guests shared the full turkey dinner provided and prepared by a team of parents.

Guests were reminded of the many blessing en-

Grace was led by Msgr. William Gill, one of the founders of the regional school in 1982. A special hymn of thanks, *Dank Sei Dir Herr*, was offered by the Hamptones before the assembly joined in singing *We Gather Together*.

One of the most unique features of the event is the sharing of dinner companionship by the students: fourth graders are paired with kindergartners, first graders with fifth graders. Prep 8 shared their final



joyed by this school community and need to embrace those in need especially at this time. Local projects to provide food items, winter coats, decorations for holiday tables and visits to the elderly highlighted the weeks leading up to this celebration.

OLH Thanksgiving with the bus drivers and community guests.

**GOD BLESS EVERYONE  
THIS THANKSGIVING!**

# HALLOWE'EN IS JUST A MEMORY



Scarecrows, angels, power figures, literary characters and fantasy symbols were seen in the OLH gym class, playing recorders in music class, eating pizza and working on Chromebooks and Science projects as Hallowe'en was observed.



# PREP 8 REMEMBERS...IN SPANISH

Students from Senora Barbara Gaias' Prep 8 Spanish classes recently engaged in Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos) activities as they studied the lives of famous deceased Hispanics.

They interviewed each other, researched their chosen person, cited sources in a bibliography, memorized their tombstone and created an "ofrenda" to add to their mock cemetery.

The historical markers represented a vast range of Hispanic personalities, including singer Selena, band leader Desi Arnaz, Father Junipero Serra, artist Frida Kahlo, and professional baseball player Roberto Clemente.

The Art work for the projects was guided by art teacher Alicia Seckel. The primary Spanish teacher, Senora Lennon's students had a hand in this as they contributed hand cut papel picado and folded tissue paper marigolds to adorn the revered ancestral gravesites.



## THE SAINTS PAY A VISIT .....

The Feast of All Saints was observed in a very special way on November 1. Father Ryan Creamer and Father Janusz Lipski celebrated the liturgy that had been prepared by the fourth grade class and their teachers, Miss Price and Mrs. Distefano. Members of Our Lady of Poland Parish and several parents were among the overflow crowd in the parish church.

Later in the day, the saints came alive, and Padre Pio, Pope John Paul II,



Mother Teresa, Kateri Tekakwitha, Katharine Drexel, Michael the Archangel, Francis of Assisi, Luke, the Apostle and Joan of Arc were seen in the halls, visiting the lunch tables, teaching classes and sharing specially made games, videos, Nearpods and Kahoots.

The day was made special when these holy people became one of us!

## ...THEN VENTURE OUT TO OTHERS



The activities surrounding All Saints' Day included several outreach initiatives devised by the teachers and carried out by the students.

Prep 8 students went door to door at Bishop Ryan Village, distributing special All Saints' gifts (a reverse of trick or treating)

Prep 7 students made a special visit to Bridgehampton Senior Center where they exchanged conversations, entertained and served and shared lunch with the clients at the Center. This is a monthly activity for the class.

In the middle of the Hallowe'en celebration at school, the fifth grade homerooms ventured over to the Hampton Care Center where, dressed in costumes, went trick or treating on the units. Residents welcomed the students and shared their gifts of sweets and Halloween goodies.





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## FIRST GRADERS STEP OUT...AND STEP UP



In the short span of two weeks, the first grade class, filled with joy, string singing voices and tremendous energy took to the stage and presented a special assembly “Hallowe’en Around the World”. Soon after, they were called upon to work on special cards of thanks and remembrance for veterans on Veterans’ Day. The class was among the best supporters of



their teacher, OLH alum Lauren Valle as she completed her 26.2 mile run in the New York City Marathon.

## SECOND GRADERS SHOW HOW IT'S DONE



During the school year, each grade presents one full assembly. The teachers choose themes and scripts based upon holidays, literary characters or special teaching moments. Costumes and scenery enhance these productions.

In a unique musical presentation, Mrs. Gross and her second graders taught several etiquette lessons in “Good Manners: a Medieval Tale”. The entire class sang songs that taught lessons on table manners, kindness toward each other and general tips for making the world a better place...simply by displaying good manners. Bravo! grade two

## HOW DO YOU SPELL C-H-A-M-P-I-O-N?

One of the OLH rituals of November is the annual Senior Spelling Bee for grade 5 and Prep 6,7,8. This year’s bee saw many spellers who are familiar to the format and are veterans of the contests the last few years. Several new faces were also among the twenty contestants who responded to moderator Lisa Macari’s word selection.

Prep 6 Jenna Didomenico outlasted Pre 8 Anna Lee Geoghan in spell-off rounds and emerged as the victor. Jenna will now represent OLH at the Long Island Spelling Bee scheduled for February.

Prep 6 Trey Gundy captured the third place trophy after a spell-off with grade 5’s Angelo Londono.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

